

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Commission Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street SW
CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554
Re: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Commission:

I strongly support SBC's application to compete in the long distance market in Michigan. Competition will bring greater value and lower prices to consumers and give them more choices. The residents in Michigan deserve more choices. In fact, a dozen states already are enjoying the choice. As a lifelong resident of Michigan and a former State Representative, I am well aware of the need for fair and full telecommunications competition. I believe that SBC has met the fourteen points especially the local competition portion of the 271 process.

Throughout my tenure serving the state of Michigan, I have taken a particular interest in consumer protection issues. Protecting consumer's interest means giving them the power to choose, the power to save money and the freedom to secure the best deals for their lifestyles. Granting SBC's long distance application will do exactly that.

I commend the Michigan Public Service Commission for ensuring Michigan's local telephone market is open to competition. It is my hope I can commend the FCC in the same way in regards to ensuring long distance competition. In the past two years we've seen local competition grow to twenty percent in Michigan. In addition, it's my understanding that SBC received good grades on the company's systems that support local phone competition.

I hope the next step in this process is the FCC's approval of SBC's application, granting final approval. I wish you the best of luck in your efforts. My wish is that by summer that my local phone company can be my long distance company and I hope you grant me that wish.

Sincerely;
State Representative Bob Brown
23280 South Brookside
Dearborn Heights, MI 48125